

Few tie-ups reported as Del. 1 lanes open

ODESSA — The opening of Del. 1 north around Odessa and Boyds Corner on Monday went relatively smoothly, highway officials said.

Road crews opened the two northbound lanes about 11:30 a.m., said David Duke, the state Department of Transportation's resident engineer for the project. Crews had planned to open the lanes by 9 a.m., but Duke said crews got a late start and had to finish striping before the new road could open.

"Everything went good, though," Duke said. "... It was just getting everything coordinated, making sure signs were covered up — dotting your i's, crossing your t's."

Duke said there were few traffic tie-ups as workers prepared to move cars and trucks off U.S. 13 onto Del. 1.

State officials said they would direct all northbound motorists through the tollbooth lanes, handing them fliers about EZ-Pass discounts, until tolls go into effect Nov. 17.

Crews opened the southbound lanes of the limited-access highway Oct. 18. Southbound motorists will be directed through the tollbooth lanes starting Nov. 15.